

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : Not Yet Assigned PCT/EP2004/003962  
First Named Inventor : Matthias SCHEFFZUEK  
Filed : Herewith  
TC/A.U. : N/A  
Examiner : N/A

Docket No. : 095309.56961US  
Customer No. : 23911

Title : Crash Structure for an Automotive Shell Structure

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attached Form PTO-1449 lists documents which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

**I. Time Period of Submission**

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

☒ 1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or 2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

☐ 2) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action closing prosecution (*Ex parte Quayle*), (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith:

☐ a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or

☐ a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ 3) after either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith:

a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and

a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

II. Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

☐ I hereby state that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

III. Submission of Non-English Language Documents

☒ The following is a concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449:

☒ The relevance of documents AF and AH to the subject matter of the present invention is provided in the specification of the above-identified application.

☒ Corresponding foreign or international report(s) citing document(s) AA, AD and AE, together with an English-language version(s) (if not already in English) of that portion of the report(s) indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office(s) is/are submitted.

☒ Documents AB and AJ-AM are cited in the attached German Office Action generated in connection with the German priority application.

☐ English language family member publication(s) of document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are noted on Form PTO-1449.

☐ English language abstract(s) is/are submitted for document(s) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ English translation(s) of the foreign language document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are submitted herewith.

☐ Applicant submits the following explanations:  
\_\_\_\_\_

IV. Continuations/Divisionals/PCT National Stage Applications

☐ Documents \_\_\_\_\_ were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on == in parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, from which this application claims a benefit.

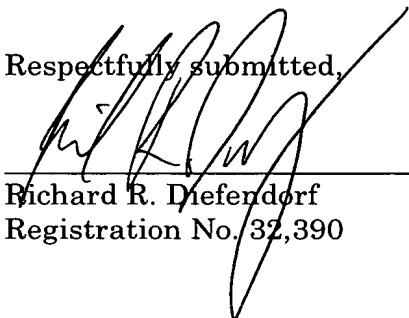
☐ Copies of the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 have already been provided by the International Searching Authority, therefore, duplicate copies are not attached hereto.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, this paper should be considered as an authorization to charge Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 095309.56956US, for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Respectfully submitted,

November 14, 2005

  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			Application Number	Not Yet Assigned (PCT/EP2004/003962)	
			Filing Date	Herewith	
			First Named Inventor	Matthias SCHEFFZUEK	
			Art Unit	N/A	
Examiner Name	N/A				
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	095309.56961US			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	2003/0075951A1	04/24//2003	Hanakawa et al.	
	AB	2003/0075952A1	04/24/2003	Hochidome et al.	
	AC				

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)					
	AD	EP 1 256 510 A1		11/13/2002	LeFevre, Eric		
	AE	EP 0 926 048 A2		06/30/1999	Brown et al.		
	AF	DE 198 12 701 A1		09/30/1999	Siegmund et al.		
	AH	DE 100 36 396 A1		02/07/2002	Oehlschlaeger et al.		
	AJ	DE 100 26 393 A1		11/29/2001	Krueger, Helmut		
	AK	DE 100 23 112 A1		11/15/2001	Gholami et al.		
	AL	DE 198 58 303 A1		06/29/2000	Lange et al.		
	AM	DE 199 53 808 A1		06/23/2001	Eipper et al.		

<b>NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>			
Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	AN	<b>International Search Report</b>	
	AO	<b>German Office Action</b>	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.